

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

### **Article 1: Unveiling the Nexus Between Government Guarantees and the Ripple Effect on Economic Landscapes**

**Muhammad Harunurashid Thelatha** is an Assistant Secretary in the Strategic Investment Division (SID), Ministry of Finance, Malaysia (MOF). He began his public service career in 2015 as an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer (PTD). Holding a degree in Physics (Solid State Physics) and a Master's Degree in Economics (Econometrics), he is professionally certified in Data Engineering, Data Science, and Cloud Solutions. His academic ambition is to pursue a PhD in Data Science. Harunurashid has contributed to projects such as the redevelopment of the Macro-econometric Model of Malaysia (MMM) with the World Bank, MySejahtera Analytics, and Fixed Income Analytics. He also lectures part-time at UKM on Time Series Analysis and Forecasting, Economic Data Analysis, and Calculus for Economics. His publications and consultancy work often focus on economic and financial modeling, as well as big data analytics (BDA).

### **Article 2: Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions to Support Climate Resilient Economy in Kuala Lumpur**

**Nurul Hidayah Zawawi** holds a Bachelor's in Town and Regional Planning from Universiti Teknologi MARA and a Master of Science in Built Environment, from International Islamic University Malaysia. In 2009, she joined Kuala Lumpur City Hall as a Town Planning Officer, before being promoted to Senior Town Planning Officer. She is a registered graduate town planner with the Board of Town Planners and a Graduate Member of the Malaysia Institute of Planners. As a Senior Town Planning Officer, she played a role in monitoring the progress and led the Kuala Lumpur Climate Action Plan 2050 mitigation and adaptation component. She has strongly encouraged innovation for the city with an emphasis on ensuring economic prosperity growing alongside social and environmental protection and also aspires to learn more from other cities' best practices efforts.

### **Article 3: The Overhang Phenomenon: Analysing the Unsold Residential Properties in Malaysia**

**Nur Khairina Khairul Nizam** is a PhD candidate in the Housing Market at Universiti Sains Malaysia. She graduated with both a Master's degree in Project Management and a Bachelor's degree in Housing, Building and Planning with majoring in Construction Management from Universiti Sains Malaysia. With a year of professional experience as a Quantity Surveyor, she returned to academia to focus on research addressing the imbalance between housing supply and demand in urban development, ensuring more equitable access to affordable and quality housing. She is also passionate about leveraging social media marketing to enhance community engagement and promote sustainable housing solutions. Her work aligns with SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 10 (reducing inequalities), including the role of online brand communities in fostering innovation and inclusivity in the real estate sector.

**Assoc. Prof. Sr Dr. Ruhizal Roosli** is a senior lecturer at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). He holds a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from Northumbria University, UK, with a specialization in housing studies, development planning, and disaster management. He was elected as a Minister of Higher Education (MOHE) Post-Doctoral Fellow at the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University. With over 20 years of professional experience, he has contributed significantly to academia and industry through his expertise in urban housing trends, post-disaster reconstruction projects, and sustainable development progress. He has also undertaken several impactful projects, such as leading the development of the 20-Minute City Concept in Penang and grants on the Post-Disaster Reconstruction Projects in Southeast Asia. Apart from being a registered member of ESG Malaysia, he also received several prestigious awards, including the Japanese Award for Outstanding Research on Development from the government of Japan and the Fellowship for Climate Action from India Anant National University.

**Sr Dr. Mohd Hanizun Hanafi** is an Associate Professor from the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan. He is a highly experienced and dedicated academic and professional Quantity Surveyor with a deep background in quantity surveying, construction project management, heritage conservation, and technology management. He is passionate about advancing his expertise in both academic and professional settings, with a focus

on conducting impactful research and contributing to the growth and development of the construction industry. He has authored and co-authored more than 120 research papers, book chapters, and academic books, contributing significantly to the body of knowledge in the fields of quantity surveying, construction project management, heritage conservation, and technology integration. Throughout his career, he has successfully managed research projects with funding exceeding RM 3 million from both internal and external grants. His research has had a profound impact on the development of best practices within the construction and heritage sectors.

#### **Article 4: Building Resilience in Kindergarten Supply Chains: A Conceptual Approach to Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19**

**Nur Aqila Abdul Gani** is a first-year Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) student at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kelantan, specializing in the Faculty of Business and Management. She holds a Master's degree in Knowledge Management from the Faculty of Information Management, which has provided her with a strong foundation in understanding the creation, dissemination, and utilization of knowledge within organizations. With over four years of experience as a lecturer for diploma students, Aqila has spent two years teaching Project Management and one year focusing on Logistics Management. This teaching role has not only enabled her to impart knowledge to future professionals but has also enriched her grasp of how theoretical principles are applied in practical, real-world scenarios. Her research interests lie at the intersection of resilience, organizational behavior and sustainability, knowledge-sharing capabilities, and supply chain management. She is particularly intrigued by how organizations can cultivate resilience and adaptability in the face of challenges, as well as the pivotal role of knowledge sharing in driving organizational performance.

This article marks her debut contribution to academic literature, and she is eager to share her insights and findings with the broader scholarly community. Aqila remains committed to advancing research in her fields of interest and looks forward to collaborating with fellow researchers and practitioners to explore innovative solutions that propel success in today's dynamic business landscape.

## **Article 5: Healthcare Services Digital Transformation: Assessing Public Hospitals Technology Competitive Advantage in Malaysia**

**Dr. Mohd Firdaus Mohd Arif** is an experienced Administrative and Diplomatic Officer with 17 years in public service. He holds a PhD in Science and Governance Sustainability, a Master's degree in Health Service Management, and a Bachelor's degree in Resource Management. He is listed in the SUPREME program (Special Unit for High Potential and SME) under the Malaysian Public Service Department and has received two Excellent Service Awards. His contributions to society have been recognized with the Excellent Community Service Medal (PMC).

Dr. Firdaus is passionate about driving innovation in public service. While serving in the Negeri Sembilan State Government, he led the Creativity & Innovation Award (KIK) initiative, securing third place. He also led a team that developed an online land administration application, which advanced to the final stage of the Land Administration Innovation Award (AISA) by MAMPU. In academia, he has published two articles in Web of Science (WOS) indexed journals: "COVID-19 Pandemic Management: A Review of the Digitalisation Leap in Malaysia" (Q2) and "Influence of Digitalization and Personality on Job Performance among Healthcare Employees: A Case Study in Malaysia" (Q3, Emerging Sources Citation Index or ESCI). Currently, he serves as a Special Tasks Officer to the Director-General of the Malaysian Public Service and contributes as a panel facilitator in developing the Public Service Reform Agenda, led by the Chief Secretary to the Government.

## **Article 6: Reforming Malaysia My Second Home Programme: Balancing Financial Objectives with Social Impact**

**Dr. Nurulhasanah Abdul Rahman** is a senior lecturer at the School of Distance Education, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Her expertise includes public policy, public administration, policy analysis, policy studies, policy transfer, and social science. She contributes extensively to research on policy challenges, including the Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H) programme, and is actively involved in

studies on online learning transformation, lifelong learning, distance learning, and youth politics. Dr. Nurulhasanah has received several awards, including the USM Fellowship Award and the Graduate on Time Award, and serves as a reviewer for Scopus-indexed journals.

### **Article 7: Unleashing the Power of Online Education: Opportunities and Strategies for Vietnam's Higher Education to Emerge Stronger Beyond COVID-19**

**Betty Wong** has over a decade of experience in clinical and health policy work. She has led teams and collaborated with diverse stakeholders on initiatives involving hospital services, rehabilitative care, primary healthcare development, and digitalization strategies. She holds a Bachelor's in Speech Pathology from Flinders University of South Australia (2009) and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (2021).

**Cheung Lok Kan**, also known as Dan, is a seasoned social impact professional with ten years of expertise in stakeholder engagement and public affairs. Focused on leveraging digital innovation for social good, he has supported over 200 projects across Hong Kong and Asia, aiding them in funding management, strategic communication, and community engagement. He earned a Bachelor of Social Science in Organizational Communication from Hong Kong Baptist University (2012) and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (2021).

**Lee Lizhen Lilian** brings more than a decade of experience from the Ministry of Health, Singapore, where she worked on hospital planning, care integration, and community care models. Currently, she serves in the Ageing Planning Office, overseeing Active Ageing programmes aimed at helping seniors remain healthy and engaged in their communities. She holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences in Psychology from Nanyang Technological University (2010) and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (2021).

**Lee Wong Cheng**, or Jacky, began his career in health policy analysis at the Ministry of Health, Singapore, in 2013 after completing postgraduate studies in biomedical engineering. He has been instrumental in developing regulatory frameworks for human biomedical research and emerging healthcare technologies. More recently, he has contributed to cost containment strategies and claim governance to ensure sustainable healthcare costs and insurance premiums in Singapore. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering from the National University of Singapore (2009), a PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (2013), and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (2021).

**Siti Nur Aísyah Abdul Razak** has 14 years of experience in management and support services and has expertise in capacity building, finance, procurement, and administration across the Ministries of Housing and Local Government, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Human Resources. She holds a Bachelor's in Computer Science from the University of Malaya (2006) and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (2021).

**Zulfadli Ab Rahim** is an experienced educator with five years of teaching English in primary schools and six years managing professional development programs focused on educational technology for teachers. Currently, he serves as a senior training consultant at the National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN), designing and delivering training programs for Malaysian civil servants. He earned a Bachelor of Education in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) from the University of Malaya (2010) and a Master's in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (2021).

#### **Article 8: Undersea Lifelines: Assessing the Imperativeness of Integrating Submarine Cables into Malaysia's Critical National Infrastructure**

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Manique A.E. Cooray** is an accomplished legal scholar and educator with extensive expertise in Cyber Crimes, Information Technology Law, Child Law, and Human Rights. She holds an LLB (Hons) from the University of Wolverhampton, UK, and further specialized in Public International Law and Public



Relations at Holborn College, UK. As a Commonwealth Postgraduate Scholar, she completed her Master of Comparative Law at the University of Delhi, India, and earned her PhD from the Faculty of Law, University of Malaya in 2011. Dr. Cooray joined the Faculty of Business and Law at Multimedia University (MMU) in 2007, where she has held various leadership roles, including Deputy-Dean and Dean, and currently serves as an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law. Her recent publications, featured in reputable journals such as the *Asian Journal of Law and Policy* and the *International Journal for Court Administration*, reflect her dedication to exploring contemporary legal issues, including metaverse implications, child online exploitation, and statutory frameworks.

**Raaga Manjari Annathurai** is a legal expert in maritime law, specialising in the protection and regulation of submarine cables. She holds a Masters law degree from the University of Malaya, where she developed a strong foundation in legal principles in Commercial Law. Raaga's expertise encompasses the development of legal frameworks that safeguard these critical infrastructures, essential for global telecommunications. She has actively engaged in policy discussions and legislative drafting to enhance the legal clarity surrounding submarine cable protection in Malaysia. Notably, she was nominated by Malaysia's Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to attend the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) Course on Marine Environment Protection & Ocean Governance in 2023, and she was successfully admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2020. Raaga has published significant works, including "The Security and Legal Challenges of Submarine Cables in Malaysia" and "Assessing the Legal Framework on The Protection of Submarine Cables in Malaysia," contributing to the discourse on legal challenges and safety concerns associated with submarine cables in local and international journals. Through her research and advocacy, she plays a pivotal role in promoting sustainable practices and compliance with international standards in the management of submarine cable systems in Malaysia.

**Muhammad Zulhilmi Mohd Nizam** is a Master of Law graduate from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), specialising in maritime law and the law of the sea. He currently serves as the Assistant Director, Legal and Secretarial at the Malaysia Forest Fund (MFF), where he plays a pivotal role in advancing the fund's legal and governance frameworks. Before his tenure at MFF, Zulhilmi was a dedicated Researcher at the Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA), contributing significantly to the Centre for Ocean Law & Policy. His work at MIMA

reflected his deep expertise in maritime legal frameworks, particularly in areas such as maritime education and training. During this time, he co-authored and published a groundbreaking article in the *MIMA Maritime Affairs Journal* (Vol. 1, 2023) titled: “Maritime Education and Training (MET): Exploration of the Issues and Challenges in the Malaysian Education System.” The article provided an insightful analysis of the gaps and challenges in Malaysia’s maritime education system, advocating for reforms to align with international standards and the industry’s evolving needs. Zulhilmi’s dedication to advancing maritime legal studies and his strategic role at MFF highlight his commitment to fostering sustainable development, governance, and capacity building in Malaysia’s legal and environmental sectors. With a solid foundation in law and a passion for maritime affairs, he continues to be a valuable asset to his field and a respected contributor to scholarly and professional discourse.

**Mr. Eng Siang Tay** is an experienced legal practitioner and academician specializing in Land Law, Company Law, Contract Law, and Legal Practice. He holds both a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) and a Master of Laws (Distinction) from the University of Malaya. Admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1995, he practiced for seven years in civil, banking, and commercial litigation, as well as conveyancing, before transitioning to academia in 2004. At Multimedia University (MMU), he served as the first Deputy-Dean Academic of the Faculty of Law from 2013 to 2016 and currently holds the position of Assistant Professor at the same faculty.

#### **Article 9: Pre-Digital Safety Act Enactment: Should We Learn from The EU?**

**Muhammad Muslim Rusli** holds a Master’s degree in International Economic and Business Law from Kyushu University, Japan, along with a Postgraduate Diploma from the Kyushu University EU Centre. He also earned dual Bachelor’s degrees in Shariah Law and Civil Law from the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). Currently, he is pursuing a PhD in legal studies at the University of Malaya. Muslim brings a wealth of professional experience, having served as an Assistant Director at both the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development in



Pahang and the Malaysian Fire and Rescue Department under the Pahang State Education Office. Additionally, he has worked as a Legal Advisor for Yayasan First Life and as a part-time lecturer at Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology. His areas of specialization include Social Media Law, Online Law, and International Law. Muslim has contributed to several reputable journals, publishing articles such as Crowdfunding in Malaysia: Securing Financial Aid Through Social Network (Journal of Economics and Policy, 2020), Exit Policy – Service Circular 7/2015 Real Focus (FRAMZINE, 2018), and Investor-State Dispute Resolution (ISDS) and Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA): Malaysia and Challenges (International Journal of Social Policy and Society, 2016).

#### **Article 10: Policy Perspectives: Leveraging Big Data Analytics for Enhanced Decision-Making in Malaysian Higher Learning Institutions**

**Ts. Dr. Mohamed Azlan Ashaari** is an accomplished administrator with a strong educational background, holding a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), a Master of Business Administration (MBA), and a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from Universiti Utara Malaysia. With over two decades of professional experience, he has served in various strategic roles at USM, including Deputy Registrar at the Strategic Corporate Development Office and Director of the Security Department, showcasing his leadership and commitment to institutional excellence. His expertise lies in big data analytics capability, particularly its transformative applications in higher education and data-driven decision-making. His impactful research has been widely published, including works in internationally recognized journals such as *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*. His innovative contributions to the field have earned him accolades, including the Anugerah Sanggar Sanjung USM in 2021 for impactful publications and the Outstanding Administrator Award from Majlis Persatuan Pentadbir Universiti Awam Malaysia (MASTI) in 2022 for research and social writing.

## **Article 11: Exploring the Landscape of Fundamental Research in Malaysia: Challenges and Future Opportunities**

**Ts. Dr. Syamimi Shamsuddin** is currently a university lecturer under the Department of Community Health, Advanced Medical and Dental Institute, Universiti Sains Malaysia. She holds a master's degree from Loughborough University, UK, and a doctoral degree in Mechanical Engineering from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. Previously, she was seconded as Senior Principal Assistant Director (Section Head of R&D) at the Higher Education Institution (HLI) Research Excellence Division, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia in Putrajaya for four years. She has strong expertise in grant management, including leading research evaluations, setting up key research bodies, advising on monitoring systems, and managing national and international projects. She has contributed to government policies on research funding and innovation strategies in higher education. In addition to her expertise in grant management, Dr. Syamimi specializes in rehabilitation robotics and human-robot interaction. Her research focuses on how robots can improve the lives of individuals with autism, as well as adults with stroke, depression, and dementia. She has authored over 85 indexed publications, contributing to the advancement of these fields. Passionate about doing impactful research to propel humanity forward, she is an active member of IEEE Malaysia and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), UK. She loves to indulge in books and spend moments with her family in her spare time.

**Wan Nor `Ain Wan Mohd Salleh@Wan Yusof** holds a Certificate in Physical Science from Kolej Matrikulasi Pulau Pinang and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Universiti Sains Malaysia. With a career spanning over a decade, she served as an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer at the Ministry of Higher Education from 2009 to 2021 at HEI Research Excellence Division (BKPI). Currently, she holds a similar position at the Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development, a role she has been in since 2021. Her areas of expertise include financial management, procurement, and human resource and research grant management.

**Nur Amalina Ismail** holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management (2019), a Bachelor's in Conservation Biology (2014), and a Master's in Science (2017). She began her career as an Assistant Director at the Ministry of Higher Education, focusing on research management and public HEI governance. Since 2024, she has been an Assistant Secretary in the Human Capital Section

of the Prime Minister's Department, specializing in research grant management and human resource administration. She has contributed to several journals and conference proceedings, with research on topics ranging from the antioxidant properties of traditional plants to ethnomedicinal knowledge in Malaysia. Notably, her work has been published in journals like the Saudi Journal of Biological Sciences, Food Research, and Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

**Nur Salfarienna Sikari** holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (2003-2006). She has been serving as an Administrative Officer at Universiti Malaya since 2019. Her areas of expertise include administrative work, grant process management, and managing grant funds.

**Ts. Muhammad Winal Zikril Zulkifli** holds a Master of Science in Manufacturing Engineering from Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (2017-2019), specializing in human-robot interaction. He currently serves as an Administrative Officer (N41) at the Ministry of Higher Education since March 2021, where he acts as a liaison officer between Malaysian Technical University Network (MTUN) universities and the ministry while managing grant funds. His core expertise encompasses manufacturing engineering, robotics and automation, and artificial intelligence integration. In research, he has published two ISI-WoS indexed journal articles and eight conference proceedings papers, primarily focusing on human-robot interaction and the application of animal robots in therapy.

## **Article 12: Book Review: Industrial Halal Mind (Minda Halal Industri)**

**Hazwani Mohamad Nor** is a graduate with a Master's degree in Shariah from the University of Malaya in 2015. Previously, she obtained a Bachelor's degree in Shariah (Management) from the same university in 2006. With over 18 years of experience in Islamic Affairs, her career began as an Islamic Affairs Officer at the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) from 2006 to 2021. She is currently serving in the Education Division under the Federal Territory Islamic Religious Department (JAWI). Specializing in Shariah and Management, she has produced several works, including journal articles and book chapters, that explore the application of Islamic professionalism in public service.